

**JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION  
OF THE  
STATE OF MONTANA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Date: March 31, 2015  
To: All media organizations  
From: Lois Menzies  
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Subject: Interviews for 4th Judicial District Judge Applicants

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On Monday, April 13, 2015, the Judicial Nomination Commission will interview the following applicants for the position of district court judge for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District (Missoula and Mineral counties):

- Brenda Constance Desmond
- Barbara Leslie Halligan
- Lisa B. Kauffman
- Thomas Charles Orr
- Brian J. Smith
- Shane Anthony Vannatta
- Leta J. Womack

Interviews will begin at 10 a.m. in the Montana Board Room in the Holiday Inn Downtown, 200 South Pattee, in Missoula. Deliberations will follow the last interview. The interviews and deliberations are open to the public; however, public comment regarding the applicants will not be taken because the comment period has closed.

The Commission will forward the names of three to five nominees to the Governor for appointment. The person appointed by the Governor is subject to election at the primary and general elections in 2016. The candidate elected in 2016 will serve until January 2019.

Judicial Nomination Commission members are District Judge Richard Simonton of Glendive; Mona Charles of Kalispell, Elizabeth Halverson of Billings; Hal Harper of Helena; Lane Larson of Billings; Ryan Rusche of Columbia Falls; and Nancy Zadick of Great Falls.

